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CANNED FRUIT
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AUSTRALIAN 1963 CANNED FRUIT PACK MAY BE RECORD LARGE

The 1963 Australian canned deciduous fruit pack may equal or slightly exceed the 7.6 million case (24-2½ basis) record set in 1962. Australian production during the 5-year period 1956-60 averaged only 4.9 million cases.

Exports of canned deciduous fruits during 1962 totaled 4.3 million cases, exceeding the average by 1.2 million cases. Shipments during 1963 should not be less than those of 1962.

The Australian Canned Fruits Board has not yet released official estimates for 1963, but present indications point toward a record canned peach pack while the canned pear pack will probably equal last year's record production. The canned apricot and mixed-fruit packs may be smaller.

Fresh fruit production was extremely heavy this season; in fact, some canners were reported to be unable to absorb all the available fruit. Not only were the climatic conditions favorable this season, but significantly improved cultural practices on older holdings, and the plantings during the mid-1950's which are now reaching the bearing stage, helped swell the volume of canning-quality fruit now being offered to the canners.

CANNED FRUIT: Australian production and exports,
average 1956-60, annual 1960-63

Canned Fruit	: Average : : 1956-60 :	1960	: 1961	: 1962	: Forecast : 1963
	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000
	: <u>cases</u> <u>1/</u>	: <u>cases</u> <u>1/</u>	: <u>cases</u> <u>1/</u>	: <u>cases</u> <u>1/</u>	: <u>cases</u> <u>1/</u>
Production:	:	:	:	:	:
Apricots.....	: 701	: 576	: 334	: 918	: 800
Mixed fruit.....	: 233	: 201	: 190	: 441	: 400
Peaches.....	: 1,862	: 2,045	: 1,675	: 3,259	: 3,500
Pears.....	: 2,130	: 2,415	: 2,621	: 3,006	: 3,000
Total.....	: 4,926	: 5,237	: 4,820	: 7,624	: 7,700
Exports:	:	:	:	:	:
Apricots.....	: 360	: 278	: 76	: 317	: 350
Mixed Fruit.....	: 102	: 99	: 121	: 158	: 250
Peaches.....	: 1,003	: 1,100	: 793	: 1,564	: 1,650
Pears.....	: 1,655	: 2,016	: 1,871	: 2,242	: 2,100
Total.....	: 3,120	: 3,493	: 2,861	: 4,281	: 4,350

1/ Cases of equivalent 24 No. 2½ cans.

CANNED APRICOTS: Australia, supply and distribution,
1961, 1962, and forecast 1963

Item	: 1961	: 1962	: Forecast : 1963
	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000
	: <u>cases</u> <u>1/</u>	: <u>cases</u> <u>1/</u>	: <u>cases</u> <u>1/</u>
Supply:	:	:	:
Beginning stocks, January 1:	: 13	: 5	: 156
Production.....	: 334	: 918	: 800
Total.....	: 347	: 923	: 956
Distribution:	:	:	:
Exports.....	: 76	: 317	: 350
Domestic consumption.....	: 266	: 450	: 450
Ending stocks, December 31:	: 5	: 156	: 156
Total.....	: 347	: 923	: 956

1/ Cases of equivalent 24 No. 2½ cans.

The 1963 canned apricot pack is estimated at 800,000 cases, a large pack, but down from 1962, when the pack of 918,000 cases was the second largest on record. Although the fresh fruit crop was larger than last year, the amount of canning-quality fruit available was smaller. This was attributed largely to heavy rains which caused extensive splitting and affected general quality.

A record canned peach pack of 3.5 million cases--the second successive record pack--has been indicated, and it could well be even larger if fruit originally not accepted by canners were eventually processed. The 1963 canned peach pack may be about 250,000 cases larger than that of 1962, and possibly even greater. As with the other fresh fruits, a bumper peach crop was harvested in most areas, and with increasingly large quantities of fruit from new orchards now reaching the bearing stage, some canners have had to restrict fruit intake because of the large supplies available.

CANNED PEACHES: Australia, supply and distribution,
1961, 1962, and forecast 1963

Item	1961	1962	Forecast 1963
	1,000	1,000	1,000
	<u>cases</u> 1/	<u>cases</u> 1/	<u>cases</u> 1/
Supply:			
Beginning stocks, January 1:	159	87	282
Production.....	1,675	3,259	3,500
Total.....	1,834	3,346	3,782
Distribution:			
Exports.....	793	1,564	1,650
Domestic consumption.....	954	1,500	1,500
Ending stocks, December 31:	87	282	632
Total.....	1,834	3,346	3,782

1/ Cases of equivalent 24 No. 2½ cans.

The 1963 canned pear pack should reach 3 million cases just about equalling last year's record pack. Bartlett pears in the Victorian Goulburn Valley area, the major producing area for this variety, had only slightly smaller yields below the record harvest last year. Consequently, the availability of canning fruit remained at a high level despite overall lower pear production as a result of smaller crops of other dessert varieties.

CANNED PEARS: Australia, supply and distribution,
1961, 1962, and forecast 1963

Item	1961	1962	Forecast 1963
	1,000	1,000	1,000
	<u>cases</u> 1/	<u>cases</u> 1/	<u>cases</u> 1/
Supply:			
Beginning stocks, January 1..	58	71	35
Production.....	2,621	3,006	3,000
Total.....	2,679	3,077	3,035
Distribution:			
Exports.....	1,871	2,242	2,100
Domestic consumption.....	737	800	800
Ending stocks, December 31..	71	35	135
Total.....	2,679	3,077	3,035

1/ Cases of equivalent 24 No. 2½ cans.

Production of the 1963 composite canned-fruit packs, now estimated at 400,000 cases, is expected to be below last year's record level. This season, greater emphasis is expected to be placed on the fruit salad and cocktail packs rather than the two-fruit pack--a mixture of diced peaches and pears--which dominated last year's composite packs.

The make-up of the composite packs, since 1956, has been as follows:

Year	Fruit Cocktail	Fruit Salad	Two-Fruit	Total
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	<u>cases</u> 1/	<u>cases</u> 1/	<u>cases</u> 1/	<u>cases</u> 1/
1956.....	36	19	107	162
1957.....	151	26	138	315
1958.....	96	34	179	309
1959.....	61	13	104	178
1960.....	47	36	118	201
1961.....	77	18	95	190
1962.....	150	39	252	441
1963 forecast.....	---	---	---	400

1/ Cases of equivalent 24 No. 2½ cans.

CANNED MIXED FRUIT 1/: Australia, supply and distribution,
1961, 1962, and forecast 1963

Item	1961	1962	Forecast 1963
	1,000	1,000	1,000
	<u>cases</u> <u>2/</u>	<u>cases</u> <u>2/</u>	<u>cases</u> <u>2/</u>
Supply:			
Beginning stocks, January 1....	16	10	99
Production.....	190	441	400
Total.....	206	451	499
Distribution:			
Exports.....	121	157	250
Domestic consumption.....	75	195	200
Ending stocks, December 31....	10	99	49
Total.....	206	451	499

1/ Canned composite packs, including fruit salad, fruit cocktail and two-fruit mixtures. 2/ Cases of equivalent $2\frac{1}{4}$ No. $2\frac{1}{2}$ cans.

Minimum grower prices for canning fruit in 1963 were established at the same level as last year by the Australian Fruit Industry Sugar Concession Committee. The Committee, which is a statutory authority whose main function is the distribution of certain sugar rebates, requires that fruit processors must pay these prices (among other conditions) to qualify for a rebate on sugar usage.

CANNING FRUIT: Australian, minimum grower prices per short ton
for first-quality fruit 1/, 1958-63 seasons

Fruit	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
	U.S.	U.S.	U.S.	U.S.	U.S.	U.S.
	<u>dol.</u>	<u>dol.</u>	<u>dol.</u>	<u>dol.</u>	<u>dol.</u>	<u>dol.</u>
Apricots.....	90	70	60	76	86	86
Peaches, cling, clear center..	112	92	80	88	88	88
Peaches, cling, other.....	108	88	76	84	84	84
Peaches, freestone.....	70	60	52	60	60	60
Pears, Bartlett.....	96	76	76	84	84	84
Pears, Packham's Triumph.....	72	60	60	68	68	68

1/ Delivered to either the grower's railroad siding or to the cannery door.

In 1962, domestic sales of canned deciduous fruits approximated 2.9 million cases, an increase of 45 percent over the estimated 2 million cases sold in 1961. This is a considerable gain when considering the size of the domestic consumption in 1962 is attributed to vigorous promotion and reduced prices on the domestic market. Although further gains in domestic consumption may be made in 1963, particularly through the use of super-market "specials", it is doubtful that much of an increase will be achieved. It therefore appears that end-of-season inventories will continue to increase.

Australian consumption of canned deciduous fruits has expanded strikingly since 1955, as shown by the following figures:

<u>Year</u>	<u>1,000 cases</u> <u>(24-2½'s)</u>
1955	1,274
1956	1,528
1957	1,836
1958	1,671
1959	1,731
1960	2,024
1961 Preliminary	2,032
1962 Preliminary	2,945

Minimum export prices (cif U. K. port) of Australian canned fruits during 1963, as announced by the Australian Canned Fruits Board, will be lower than the previous year. Canned apricot prices are down 21 cents per dozen 2½'s, and clingstone peaches about 14 cents, compared with an 11-cent reduction for freestones. Canned pears are down 7 cents, while fruit cocktail and two-fruit are reduced 14 cents. The 1963 minimum prices are in general the lowest in several years.

There has been a realignment of Australian quality designations from previous years. The previous designation "Choice" has been renamed "Fancy," the former "Standard" quality is now "Choice," and "Seconds" changed to "Standard." This now brings the Australian quality designations in line with the same terminology used for U. S. canned fruits. The new grade designations do not in any way represent a change in specifications.

CANNED FRUIT: Australia, minimum export prices
to the United Kingdom (c.i.f. U.K. port), 1959-63

Fruit and Pack Style	Price per dozen 2½'s		
	Fancy	Choice	Standard
	U.S. dollars	U.S. dollars	U.S. dollars
Apricots:			
Halves			
1959.....	3.29	3.08	2.87
1960.....	3.15	2.94	2.80
1961.....	3.50	3.29	3.15
1962.....	3.50	3.29	3.15
1963.....	3.29	3.08	2.94
Peaches:			
Clingstones			
Halves and slices			
1959.....	3.64	3.43	3.22
1960.....	3.36	3.15	3.01
1961.....	3.50	3.29	3.15
1962.....	3.36	3.15	3.01
1963.....	3.22	3.01	2.87
Freestones			
Halves and slices			
1959.....	3.15	2.94	2.73
1960.....	3.12	2.90	2.76
1961.....	3.26	3.04	2.90
1962.....	3.12	2.90	2.76
1963.....	3.01	2.80	2.66
Pears (Bartletts):			
Halves and quarters			
1959.....	3.71	3.50	3.29
1960.....	3.64	3.43	3.29
1961.....	3.71	3.50	3.36
1962.....	3.57	3.36	3.22
1963.....	3.50	3.29	3.15
Fruit cocktail			
1959.....	4.20	3.99	3.78
1960.....	3.92	3.71	3.57
1961.....	4.06	3.85	3.71
1962.....	3.92	3.71	3.57
1963.....	3.78	3.57	3.43
Two-fruit			
1959.....	3.57	3.36	3.15
1960.....	3.36	3.15	3.01
1961.....	3.50	3.29	3.15
1962.....	3.36	3.15	3.01
1963.....	3.22	3.01	2.87

CANNED DECIDUOUS FRUITS: Australia, exports by country of destination, average 1934-38 and 1954-58, and annual 1959-62 calendar year

Fruit Type and Destination	Average		1959	1960	1961	Preliminary 1962
	1934-38 1/	1954-58 2/				
	1,000 cases 2/	1,000 cases 2/	1,000 cases 2/	1,000 cases 2/	1,000 cases 2/	1,000 cases 2/
<u>Canned Apricots</u>						
Canada.....	8	7	17	9	1	27
New Zealand.....	26	22	2	2	--	--
United Kingdom.....	148	541	202	248	67	275
Other.....	4	18	46	19	8	15
Total.....	186	588	267	278	76	317
<u>Canned Peaches</u>						
Canada.....	53	14	8	7	7	16
New Zealand.....	56	50	10	8	3	--
United Kingdom.....	675	1,104	939	1,051	759	1,505
Other.....	11	42	36	34	24	43
Total.....	795	1,210	993	1,100	793	1,564
<u>Canned Pears</u>						
Canada.....	5	8	9	5	15	28
New Zealand.....	8	8	--	--	--	--
United Kingdom.....	467	1,412	1,751	1,980	1,828	2,149
Other.....	8	38	30	31	28	65
Total.....	488	1,466	1,790	2,016	1,871	2,242
<u>Canned Mixed Fruit 3/</u>						
Canada.....	--	--	--	--	--	3
New Zealand.....	--	11	1	1	--	--
United Kingdom.....	--	83	59	93	116	140
Other.....	--	3	3	5	5	15
Total.....	--	97	63	99	121	158
Grand Total.....	1,469	3,361	3,113	3,493	2,861	4,281

1/ Year beginning July 1. 2/ Cases of equivalent 24 No. 2½ cans. 3/ Composite fruit packs of canned fruit cocktail, canned fruit salad (other than tropical fruit salad) and canned two-fruit.

Australian exports of canned deciduous fruits in 1962, at 4.3 million cases were at an alltime high. Canned peaches, pears, and mixed fruit shipments set individual records, while canned apricot exports were the largest of the last 4 years.

The United Kingdom is the main export outlet for Australian canned deciduous fruits. In 1962, the United Kingdom absorbed 95 percent (4.1 million cases) of Australia's exports and in some seasons this percentage is even larger. In 1962, canned pears--at 2.1 million cases--accounted for a little over half of the shipments to the United Kingdom; canned peaches--at 1.5 million cases--comprised about 40 percent. The remaining 10 percent was divided among canned apricots (7 percent), and canned mixed fruits (3 percent).

It is interesting to note that, although of minor importance, Australian shipments of canned deciduous fruits to Canada--74,000 cases--in 1962 were sharply higher than in recent years. Canned apricot and pear sales were considerably above average. For the first time, shipment of fruit cocktail was made in 1962.

Canada has a special agreement with Australia on the import duties for most canned fruit items. This arrangement provides Australia with a duty advantage over the United States of approximately 90 cents per case ($24-2\frac{1}{2}$) for canned apricots, peaches and pears, and a 45 cent advantage for fruit cocktail. In the United Kingdom market, Australian canned fruits are admitted free of any duty, while canned apricots, peaches and pears from the United States pay a duty of 12 percent ad valorem. Most U. S. fruit cocktail is admitted free. In addition U. S. canned fruits are charged a sugar duty of $5/8$ of one percent.

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Additional information on the Australian canned fruit industry may be obtained from the publication "Australian and South African Canned Deciduous Fruit Industries," FAS-M61, October 1959, Foreign Agricultural Service, United States Department of Agriculture.

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